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GHANA: A military coup attempt is under way in Accra.

Ghana radio announced early this morning that Prime Minister Busia, who is currently in London, had been deposed and that power had been taken by Lieutenant Colonel Achampong, who commands one of Ghana's two army brigades. Some firing was heard near the Prime Minister's residence, but movement in the capital has not been impeded and there is little evidence of military activity. The coup group reportedly controls the airport in addition to the radio station.

Achampong, who only recently had commanded a key security unit in Accra, was known to be personally bitter over budgetary and force cuts made last June. Achampong's take-over announcement charged Busia with economic mismanagement and with carrying out arbitrary arrests, and stated the government will be placed in the hands of a "National Liberation Group composed of representatives of the army and civic groups."

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